

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 14(Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A vacuum cleaner comprising a housing containing a housing part for receiving components of electrical appliances and a dust compartment which can be closed by a dust compartment cover that is pivotally mounted to the housing for movement between a closed position wherein the dust compartment is closed and an open position wherein the dust compartment is opened, said cover being provided with a socket for the electrical supply of additional appliances, said socket being connected to an electrical cable leading out of the housing part, wherein the housing is provided with a cable compartment for automatically inserting a section of the electrical cable during pivoting of the dust compartment cover from the open position to the closed position which closes the dust compartment.
16. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 15, wherein the cable compartment has a substantially rectangular shape and extends substantially perpendicular with respect to a pivot axis of the dust compartment cover.
17. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 16, wherein the cable compartment has a width between once and twice the width of the electrical cable.

18. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 15, wherein the cable compartment is arranged in an appliance cap which at least partially covers the housing part.
19. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the appliance cap has a hinge joint on which the dust compartment cover is hinged.
20. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the cable compartment is disposed above a cable drum disposed in the housing part.
21. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 15, wherein the cable compartment includes an opening and a cable compartment cover for closing the opening.
22. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 21, wherein the cable compartment cover has locating means for securing the cable compartment cover on the cable compartment.
23. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 21, wherein the cable compartment cover has a web which together with at least one opposing counter-web on the cable compartment forms a tension-relieving means for the electrical cable.
24. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 21, wherein the cable compartment cover has a recess at one edge section which, in addition to an additional recess on the cable compartment, forms an inlet opening for the electrical cable.

25. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 24, wherein at least one of the recess and the additional recess has a starting slope for the electrical cable.
26. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 15, further comprising a rib being provided on the cable compartment and projecting into the cable compartment to deflect the electrical cable away from a wall of the cable compartment.
27. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 26, wherein the rib is molded on an inner side of the wall of the cable compartment.
28. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 26, wherein the rib is disposed in a central area at the bottom of the cable compartment and extends substantially vertically upwardly.
29. (New) A vacuum cleaner comprising:

a housing containing a cable compartment and containing a housing part for receiving components of electrical appliances;

a dust compartment;

a dust compartment cover that is movably mounted to the housing for movement between a closed position wherein the dust compartment is closed by the dust compartment cover and an open position wherein the dust compartment is opened;

a socket mounted to the dust compartment cover, the socket for the electrical supply of additional appliances;

an electrical cable, the electrical cable having one end connected to the socket that is mounted to the dust compartment cover, an opposite end connectable to an electrical lead, and a free section at a location between the one end and the opposite end;

means for engaging the electrical cable at an upstream location thereon between the free section and the one end to hold the upstream location of the electrical cable at a fixed position relative to the dust compartment cover; and

means for engaging the electrical cable at a downstream location thereon between the free section and the opposite end to hold the downstream location of the electrical cable at a fixed position relative to the cable compartment, the free section extending between the cable compartment and the dust compartment cover and movement of the dust compartment cover from its open position to its closed position effecting an insertion of the free section of the electrical cable into the cable compartment and movement of the dust compartment cover from its closed position to its open position effecting a withdrawal of the inserted free section of the electrical cable from the cable compartment.

30. (New) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 29, wherein the upstream location of the electrical cable at a fixed position relative to the dust compartment cover and the downstream location of the electrical cable at a fixed position relative to the cable compartment are at a predetermined

spacing from one another in the open position of the dust compartment cover and the upstream location of the electrical cable and the downstream location of the electrical cable are at another spacing less than the predetermined spacing in the closed position of the dust compartment cover.

31. (New) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 30 and further comprising a rib provided on the cable compartment and projecting into the cable compartment to deflect the electrical cable away from a wall of the cable compartment.
32. (New) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 30, wherein the rib is molded on an inner side of the wall of the cable compartment.